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(54) Name of Invention:

Cleaning Method for Silicon Wafer

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(72) Inventor: Susumu Otsuka

Inside the Hikari Steel Manufacturing Plant of Nippon Steel Corporation

3434 Oaza Shimada, Hikari City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

(72) Inventor: Tadashi Sakon

Inside the Hikari Steel Manufacturing Plant of Nippon Steel Corporation

3434 Oaza Shimada, Hikari City, Yamaguchi Prefecture

(71) Applicant: Nippon Steel Corp.

2-6-3 Otemachi Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

(74) Agent: Masao Inoue, Patent Attorney

Specifications

Name of Invention

Cleaning Method for Silicon Wafer

- Claims
- A method for cleaning a silicon wafer is characterized by a cleaning liquid comprised of an aqueous solution that contains 0.1 - 20 wt% hydrogen fluoride during the silicon wafer cleaning process, along with 0.5· 25 wt% nitric acid that is used as an oxidizing agent.

- (2) A method for cleaning a silicon wafer is further characterized by a cleaning liquid comprised of an aqueous solution that contains 0.05 10 wt% hydrogen fluoride during the silicon wafer cleaning process, along with 0.05 10 wt% hydrogen peroxide that is used as an oxidizing agent.
- (3) A method for cleaning a silicon wafer is further characterized by a cleaning liquid comprised of an aqueous solution that contains 0.05 10 wt% hydrogen fluoride during the silicon wafer cleaning process, along with oxidizing gas bubbles that are mixed into the solution to be used as an oxidizing agent.

3. Detailed Description of the Invention

Industrial Field of Application

This invention pertains to a cleaning method designed to provide a high level of cleanliness along the surface of a silicon wafer.

Prior Art

In recent years, the high level of integration within devices has brought a strong demand for an improved level of cleanliness along the surface of the silicon wafers that are used as substrates for these devices.

When minute contaminants (also referred to as particles) exist along the surface of a silicon wafer, such as silicon particles, dust, etc., this can result in disconnections and shorts along the wires within a device, and in cases where metallic contaminants exist such as transition metals, other problems can arise such as the occurrence of defects along the oxidation inductive lamination layer, as well as a drop in the lifetime of the device. For this reason, when a cleaning process is conducted for the purpose of removing these contaminants, it is also necessary to prevent contamination during the cleaning process.

Recently, the following methods have been used for cleaning silicon wafers: (1) a method in which cleaning is conducted using a diluted hydrogen fluoride solution, (2) a method in which cleaning is conducted using a mixed solution of either hydrochloric acid or sulfuric acid and hydrogen peroxide, and (3) a method in which cleaning is conducted using a mixed solution of ammonia and hydrogen peroxide. The cleaning liquid used in each of these cleaning methods contains water and a highly pure form of chemicals designed to maximize the reduction of minute particle contaminants and transition metal contaminants.

Among the previous methods noted above, method (1) is capable of dissolving a natural oxide film with a normal thickness of 10Å on a silicon wafer surface, and while this method is highly effective at removing metallic contaminants within the oxide film, it still presents some difficulty when it comes to reducing the level of minute particle contaminants.

Method (2) is able to use a high level of dissolution capability with respect to the metallic contaminants contained within the sulfuric acid, but it is incapable of dissolving an oxide film. For this reason, it is highly effective when it comes to removing metallic contaminants located on top of an oxide film, but it has very little effect when it comes to removing metallic contaminants that are located within an oxide film or along the interface between an oxide film and silicon.

Since method (3) works to dissolve the silicon itself, it is highly effective at removing metallic contaminants located on top of the silicon layer. However, due to the fact that the oxide film that is generated within the basic cleaning solution can easily become embedded with the metallic contaminants, etc., that exist within the cleaning solution, there is a high possibility that the silicon wafer will become contaminated once again. However, due to the fact that this method is highly effective at removing minute particles, it is widely used among wafer manufacturers and device manufacturers.

In addition, as a method for resolving the problems experienced with the prior methods noted above, the so-called Slight Etch method was introduced in which a silicon wafer is cleaned by being dipped into a mixed solution of 60 wt% nitric acid and a maximum of 0.1 wt% hydrogen fluoride. (Ritsuo Takizawa, et al., "Extended Abstracts of Solid State Devices and Materials, 1988, P. 475)

However, highly pure nitric acid, which is referred to as semiconductor grade nitric acid, still contains ppb-order or sub-ppb-order metallic contaminants such as AI, Ca, Cu, Fe, K, Na, Zn, etc. Accordingly, there is a high concentration of metallic contaminants within cleaning solutions that contain a high concentration of nitric acid, such as 60 wt%. Furthermore, when a cleaning tank made of quartz glass is used, the metallic impurities within the quartz glass become eluted into the solution, causing the concentration to gradually increase.

Also, with the high oxidation strength of highly concentrated nitric acid, an oxide film forms on the surface of silicon wafers, and the metallic contaminants within the cleaning solution can easily become

embedded within this oxide film. Therefore, even when the Slight Etch method is applied, there is a limit to the level of high purification that takes place with regard to the silicon wafers.

Problem to Be Solved by the Invention

A method for evaluating the purity of silicon wafer surfaces is one in which the lifetime (hereinafter referred to as the recombination lifetime) is investigated using the microwave reflection method. Using this method, the inventors have evaluated the purity of silicon wafers that were cleaned according to each type of method available. The results showed that in cases where Fe is included in the cleaning solution during cleaning operations in which a mixed solution of ammonia and hydrogen peroxide is used, contamination occurs along the silicon wafer surface at a level of approximately 8 x 10¹¹ atoms/cm² even when the Fe amount is very low at 0.5 ppb. It is further understood that this causes a drop in the recombination lifetime. (Otsuka, et al., The 34th Semiconductor and Integrated Circuit Technology Symposium, Preliminary Findings, 1988, P. 37)

The objectives of this invention are as follows: to significantly reduce the level of minute particle contaminants as well as metallic contaminants such as Fe when cleaning silicon wafers; to eliminate quality problems such as the occurrence of defects along the oxidation inductive lamination layer, as well as drops in lifetime; and to obtain a highly pure silicon wafer that will prevent degradation of electrical properties when used in devices.

An outline of this invention follows.

- (1) A method for cleaning a silicon wafer is characterized by a cleaning liquid comprised of an aqueous solution that contains 0.1 20 wt% hydrogen fluoride during the silicon wafer cleaning process, along with 0.5 25 wt% nitric acid that is used as an oxidizing agent.
- (2) A method for cleaning a silicon wafer is further characterized by a cleaning liquid comprised of an aqueous solution that contains 0.05 10 wt% hydrogen fluoride during the silicon wafer cleaning process, along with 0.05 10 wt% hydrogen peroxide that is used as an oxidizing agent.
- (3) A method for cleaning a silicon wafer is further characterized by a cleaning liquid comprised of an aqueous solution that contains 0.05 10 wt% hydrogen fluoride during the silicon wafer cleaning process, along with oxidizing gas bubbles that are mixed into the solution to be used as an oxidizing agent.

This invention is designed to minimize the amount of additives for the purpose of significantly reducing the level of impurities in a cleaning solution when a cleaning operation is conducted for silicon wafers. In addition, a cleaning solution with a superior level of cleaning capability is used. Specifically, this invention calls for an oxidizing agent to be added to a highly acidic aqueous solution containing a minimal amount of fluorine ions. Furthermore, as the oxide film along the silicon wafer surface is dissolved, an etching capability is provided for the silicon, making it possible to effectively remove metallic contaminants such as Fe, etc. Claim (1) notes that a minimal amount of nitric acid is used as an oxidizing agent, whereas Claim (2) notes that a minimal amount of hydrogen peroxide is used, and Claim (3) notes that an oxidizing gas is used.

According to this invention, the respective concentrations of hydrogen fluoride, nitric acid, and hydrogen peroxide within the cleaning solution are given in weight percentages of HF, HNO₃, and H₂O₂. In Claim (3), it is possible to use an oxidizing gas that contains oxygen as well as nitrous oxide (dinitrogen monoxide). Furthermore, an ultrapure form of water is used as a solvent.

In Claim (1), given less than 0.1 wt% of hydrogen fluoride and less than 0.5 wt% of nitric acid, the removal effect with regard to the metallic contaminants is insufficient. If the hydrogen fluoride concentration is increased to exceed 20 wt%, a trend is recognized in which the amount of minute particle contaminants increases along the surface of the silicon wafers. Furthermore, if the nitric acid concentration is increased to exceed 25 wt%, there is an excessive amount of etching along the silicon surface, resulting in a defective wafer surface with a cloudy appearance. Thus, if the maximum concentration of hydrogen fluoride is set to 20 wt% and the maximum concentration of nitric acid is set to 25 wt%, there is no substantial problem with regard to the concentration of impurities that become intermixed from the chemicals.

Therefore, the concentration of hydrogen fluoride has been set to a range of 0.1 - 20 wt%, and that of nitric acid has been set to a range of 0.5 - 25 wt%. Note that if the cleaning solution temperature is allowed to increase beyond the required level, this will cause the hydrogen fluoride as well as the water and nitric acid to escape in the form of steam and may result in a cleaning solution that falls outside the scope prescribed by the invention. Furthermore, increasing the temperature requires more time, which could result in a significant loss of productivity. Therefore, the preferred maximum temperature is 80° C.

In Claim (2), given less than 0.05 wt% of hydrogen fluoride and less than 0.05 wt% of hydrogen peroxide, the removal effect with regard to the metallic contaminants is insufficient. If the hydrogen fluoride concentration is increased to exceed 10 wt%, a trend is recognized in which the amount of minute particle contaminants increases along the surface of the silicon wafers. Furthermore, if the hydrogen peroxide concentration is increased to exceed 10 wt%, there is an excessive amount of etching along the silicon surface, resulting in a defective wafer surface with a cloudy appearance. Thus, if the maximum concentration of hydrogen fluoride is set to 10 wt% and the maximum concentration of hydrogen peroxide is set to 10 wt%, there is no substantial problem with regard to the concentration of impurities that become intermixed from the chemicals.

Therefore, the concentration of hydrogen fluoride has been set to a range of 0.05 - 10 wt%, and that of hydrogen peroxide has been set to a range of 0.05 - 10 wt%. Note that if the cleaning solution temperature is allowed to increase beyond 80°C, this will cause uneven cleaning such that pits may form on the silicon wafer surface after the heat treatment is conducted. Therefore, the preferred maximum temperature is 80°C.

In Claim (3), given less than 0.05 wt% of hydrogen fluoride and no intermixing of oxidizing gas bubbles, the removal effect with regard to the metallic contaminants is insufficient. If the hydrogen fluoride concentration is increased to exceed 10 wt%, the amount of minute particle contaminants increases along the surface of the silicon wafers, and at the same time, the etching amount becomes excessive, resulting in a defective wafer surface. Thus, if the maximum concentration of hydrogen fluoride is set to 10 wt%, there is no substantial problem with regard to the concentration of impurities that become intermixed from the chemicals. Furthermore, since a highly pure form of an oxidizing gas can be relatively easily obtained which has a very low concentration of impurities, this poses no problem.

Therefore, the concentration of hydrogen fluoride has been set to a range of 0.05 - 10 wt%, and oxidizing gas bubbles are intermixed to be used as an oxidizing agent. Note that if the cleaning solution temperature is allowed to increase beyond 80°C, this will cause uneven cleaning such that pits may form on the silicon wafer surface after the heat treatment is conducted. Therefore, the preferred maximum temperature is 80° C.

In order to intermix the oxidizing gas bubbles within the cleaning solution, it is possible to use a means that is already well-known, such as inserting a gas introduction tube into the cleaning tank or installing gas jets along the bottom of the cleaning tank such that the gas is allowed to bubble into the tank.

Based on this invention, there is an electrochemical coupling between the anodic dissolution reaction of the silicon that occurs between the silicon and fluorine ions, and the cathodic reaction that is caused by the oxidizing agent, resulting in a movement of the corrosion potential to the anode side. This makes it easy to remove the metallic contaminants from the silicon wafer surface.

Passive membranes comprised of silicon oxides are either chemically or electrochemically dissolved within the highly acidic aqueous solution containing fluorine ions that fall within the scope of the method discussed in this invention. Due to the fact that this will cause stripping of the silicon wafer surface, it is necessary to add a certain amount of oxidizing agent, and when the corrosion potential moves to the anode side, the metal contaminants are easily removed from the wafer surface.

Note that according to the method described in this invention, substances other than those noted above as components of the cleaning solution may also be added without causing a loss of cleaning capability. Examples include salt types such as ammonium fluoride, etc.

In addition, according to the method of this invention, it is also acceptable to use prior well-known forms of cleaning methods in conjunction with this method. As an example, for greater effect, cleaning can be conducted using a mixed solution of ammonia and hydrogen peroxide, followed by another cleaning in which a diluted fluorine aqueous solution is used, after which cleaning is finally conducted using the method of this invention.

Embodiments

<1> Embodiment for Claim 1

The surfaces of silicon wafers are contaminated with the following: approx. 270 x 10¹⁰ atoms/cm² of Cr, approx. 240 x 10¹⁰ atoms/cm² of Cu, approx. 2230 x 10¹⁰ atoms/cm² of Fe, and approx. 313 x 10¹⁰ atoms/cm² of Ni. These wafers are then dipped into the various cleaning solutions listed in Table 1, which provides the results for each cleaning. Immediately after cleaning, the silicon wafers are cleaned twice for at least five minutes each under ultrapure running water, after which they are spun dry and an analysis is conducted to determine the level of metallic contamination on the surface.

During the analysis, chemical etching using a concentrated fluorine and nitric acid solution is applied to dissolve a 1 μ m surface layer, after which the metallic element concentration within this solution is measured using a frameless atomic absorption photometry analysis method. Note that ND indicates a level that falls below the lower limit for analytical determination. Also note that Cr is less than 0.1 x 10^{10} atoms/cm², Cu and Fe are less than 0.2×10^{10} atoms/cm², and Ni is less than 2.0×10^{10} atoms/cm².

The minute particles on the wafer surface are measured using a wafer surface particulate measuring device, and those wafers showing 10 particulates per wafer or less are indicated with an O, whereas those showing more than 10 particulates per wafer are indicated with an X.

In addition, a visual judgment is made as to whether the wafer surfaces after cleaning are hydrophobic or hydrophilic. Those that are hydrophobic are indicated with an O, those that are slightly hydrophobic are marked with a Δ , and those that are hydrophilic are marked with an X. A hydrophobic surface indicates that a silicon oxide, namely and oxide layer, does not exist on the silicon wafer surface.

An optical microscope is then used in order to observe whether or not there are any pitting defects along the wafer surface, and the findings are included in the table. The absence of pits indicates that the etching amount is appropriate, such that the wafer has an extremely smooth mirror surface.

In Table 1, Comparison Examples 1 and 15 show that the residual amounts of Fe and Cu are particularly high due to the low levels of hydrogen fluoride during cleaning. In the same fashion, Comparison Examples 6 and 14 show a high occurrence of pitting as well as residual minute particle contamination due to the fact that the hydrogen fluoride levels are too high. Pitting defects also occur in the cases of Comparison Examples 19 and 20 due to the fact that the nitric oxide levels are too high.

Prior Art Example No. 21 in which the Slight Etch cleaning method is applied uses an aqueous solution that has 60 wt% of HNO3 and 0.1 wt% of HF, but the removal effect is low with regard to Fe. Prior Art Example No. 22 in which the Ammonia Hydrogen Peroxide cleaning method is applied uses an aqueous solution that has 4.1 wt% of NH₃ and 4.4 wt% of H₂O₂, and among the various cleaning methods, this one has the lowest removal effect with regard to metallic contaminants, especially in the case of Fe. Prior Art Example No. 23 in which the Chlorine Hydrogen Peroxide cleaning method is applied uses an aqueous solution that has 5.1 wt% of HCl and 4.4 wt% of H₂O₂, and although this method is currently the most widely used due to its metallic contaminant removal effect, it still has a low removal effect with regard to Fe when compared to the examples given for this invention.

Example (1) of this invention shows a significant reduction in both minute particle contaminants as well as metallic contaminants, with no evidence of pitting defects on the surface after cleaning. Furthermore, the

surface is shown to be hydrophobic after cleaning, with no existence of an oxide film. This means that the type of recontamination that occurs when cleaning is performed in such a way that an oxide film is formed during cleaning and metallic contaminants within the cleaning solution are allowed to become embedded within the oxide film has not occurred in the case of Example 1 of this invention.

<2> Embodiments for Claims 2 and 3

The surfaces of silicon wafers are contaminated with the following: approx. 18 x 10¹⁰ atoms/cm² of Cr, approx. 110 x 10¹⁰ atoms/cm² of Cu, approx. 110 x 10¹⁰ atoms/cm² of Fe, and approx. 21 x 10¹⁰ atoms/cm² of Ni. These wafers are then dipped into the various cleaning solutions listed in Table 2, which provides the results for each cleaning. The cleaned wafers then undergo the same procedures as noted in Embodiment <1> with regard to water rinsing and drying, followed by an analysis of the metallic contaminants, measurements regarding minute particle contaminants, and observations of pitting defects. The results are shown in Table 2.

Examples (2) and (3) of this invention, which are the respective embodiments of Claims (2) and (3) of this invention, show that the levels of metallic contaminants and minute particle contaminants are drastically reduced, with no evidence of pitting defects.

Due to the low levels of hydrogen fluoride and hydrogen peroxide used during cleaning in the case of Comparison Example No. 8, as well as the low level of hydrogen fluoride used during cleaning in the case of Comparison Example No. 9, both of these examples show high residual amounts of Cr, Cu, and Fe. In the case of Comparison Example No. 15, the low level of oxidizing agent used during cleaning results in high residual amounts of Cr, Cu, and Fe. Also, as shown in Comparison Examples No. 16, No. 17, and No. 18, excessive amounts of hydrogen fluoride and hydrogen peroxide result in the appearance of pitting defects as well as an increase in the level of minute particle contaminants.

Table 1

[Third	Clean-		Heavy	metal co	ontaminat	ion on				
	HNO ₃	HF	Com-	ing	Sol.			er cleanir		Surface	·	Min.	· .
No.			po-	Time	Temp.		(x 10 ¹⁰ at	oms/cm ²)		After	Pitting	Part.	Class.
	(%)	(%)	nent ·	(sec.)	(°C)					Cleaning	Defects	Cont.	[]
:			(NH₄F)			Cr	Cu ·	Fe	Ni			·	
01	0.50	0.05	None	300	25	61	2.3	23	ND	X	None	0	CE
02	0.10	0.10	None	300	25	2.4	20	15	ND	Δ	None	0	CE
03	0.50	5.00	None.	300	25 ·	ND	ND	ND	ND	0	None	0	PE1
04	0.50	10.0	None	300	25	ND	ND	ND	ND	0	None	0	PE1
. 05	0.50	20.0	None	300	25	ND	ND	ND	ND	0	None	0	PE1
06	0.50	30.0	None	300	25 .	ND	ND	ND	ND	.0	Yes	X	CE
07	0.50	5.00	0.1%	300	25	ND	ND	ND	ND	0	None	0	PE1
08	0.50	5.00	None	300.	40 ·	ND	ND	ND ·	ND	O	None	0	PE1
09	0.50	5.00	None	300	60	ND	ND	ND.	ND	0	None	0	PE1
10	0.50	5.00	None	300	80	ND ·	ND	ND	ND ·	0	None	0	PE1
1:1	15.0	0.10	None	300	25	ND	ND	. ND	ND	.0	None	Ο .	PE1
12	15.0	0.10	0.1%	300	25	ND	ND	ND	ND	0	None	0	PE1

													
13	15.0	20.0	None	300	25	ND	ND	ND.	ND	O	None	0	PE1
14	15.0	30.0	None	300	_ 25 .	ND	ND	ND	ND	0	Yes	X	CE
' 15	25.0	0.05	None	300	25	ND	1.8	. 3.3	ND	X	None	0 .	CE
16	25.0	0.10	None	300	25	ND	ND	ND	ND	. 0	None	0	PE1
: 17	25.0	5.00	None	300	25	ND	· ND	ND.	ND	0	None	. 0	PE1
18	25.0	10.0	None	300	_ 25	ND	ND	ND	ND	0	None	0	PE1
19	30.0	5.00	None	300	25	ND.	ND	ND	ND	0	Yes	0	CE ·
20	30.0	20.0	None	300	25	ND	ND	ND.	ND -	0	Yes	0	CE
21	Sligh	t Etch M	ethod 🗆	300	.70	ND	2.8	34	ND.	X	None	0	PAE
22 .	Amm	onia Hyd	rogen	600	80	2.7	. 2.4	77	ND	X	None	0	PAE
<u> </u>	Peroxide Method												
23	Chlorine Hydrogen			600	. 80	ND	ND	15	ND	X	None	0	PAE
	Peroxide Method					•							

[Translator's Note: In the Classification (Class.) column above, CE = Comparison Example; PE1 = Patent Example (1); PAE = Prior Art Example]

Table 2

				 		1 401							
			Oxidiz					y metal c					
			-	Third	Clean-		S	urface af	ter cleani			1	
4 .			ing	Com-	ing	Sol.		(x 10 ¹⁰ at	toms/cm ²		Min.	ŀ	
No	HF	H_2O_2	Gas	po-	Time	Temp.		,			Pitting	Part.	Class.
			Com-								<u> </u>		1
·	.(%)	(%)	posi-	nent	(sec.)	(°C)					Defects	Cont.	1
			tion	•			Cr	Fe .	Ni.	Cu			
<u> </u>			(%)			·			. '		<u> </u>	•	
01	0.05	1.00	None	None	600	25	ND	ND	· ND	ND	None	0	PE2
02	0.51	0.10	None	None	600	25	ND	ND	ND	ND	None-	0	PE2
. 03	0.10	2.01	None	None	600	25	ND	ND	ND	ND	None	0	PE2
04	0.50	0.12	None	None	600	25	ND	ND	ND.	ND	None	0	PE2
05	1.05	0.11	None	None	360	25	ND	ND	ND	ND	None	0	PE2
-06	1.00	1.07	None	NH₄F	· 240	25	ND	ND	ND	ND	None	O	PE2
				0.10%		· .							
07	0.99	5.00	None	None	120	25	ND	ND	ND	ND	None	0	PE2
08	0.03	0.04	None	None	600	25	8.2	6.8	ND	5.3	None	0	CE
09	0.01	1.00	None	None	600	25	ND	.23.4	ND	12.4	None	O	CE .
10	0.10	0.20	None	None	600	40	ND	ND	ND	ND	None	0	PE2
11	0.05	None	Pure O ₂	None	600	25	ND	ND	, ND	ND	None	0	PE3
12	0.15	None	80%O₂+ 20%Ar	None	600	25	ND	ND	ND	ND	·None	0	PE3
13	1.01	None	20%O ₂ +80%N ₂	NH₄F 0.10%	360	. 30	ND	ND	ND	· ND	None	· . O	PE3
14	0.02	None	Pure O ₂	None	360	25 .	ND	45.8	ND	7.9	None	0	CE
15	0.15	0.01	None	None	600	25	· ND	12.4	ND	8.4	None	0	CE
16	11.0	2.05	None	None	600	25	ND .	ND	ND	ND	None	X	CE
· 17	5.95	10.2	None	None	600	25	ND	ND	ND	ND	Yes	О	CE
18	11.2	None	Pure O ₂	None	600	25	ND	ND	ND	ND	Yes	Χ.	CE
19	1.00	None	20%N ₂ O + 80%N ₂	None	600	30	ND	ND	ND	ND	None	O	PE3

[Translator's Note: In the Classification (Class.) column above, CE = Comparison Example; PE2 = Patent Example (2); PE3 = Patent Example (3)]

Effect of the Invention

When a silicon wafer is cleaned using the method described in this invention, a highly pure silicon wafer can be obtained in which the levels of metallic contaminants and minute particle contaminants are significantly reduced. Furthermore, not only does this invention make it possible to avoid a drop in quality among silicon wafers, such as the occurrence of defects along the oxidation inductive lamination layer as well as a drop in lifetime, when these wafers are used in highly integrated devices such as IC, LSI, etc., it is also possible to prevent degradation of electrical properties in these devices.

Agent: Masao Inoue, Patent Attorney

19日本国特許庁(JP)

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シリコンクエハの洗浄方法

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仓务 明 者

山口県光市大字島田3434番地 新日本製鐵株式會社光製鐵

所内

伊発

山口県光市大字島田3434番地 新日本製鐵株式會社光製鐵

所内

新日本製鐵株式会社 何出 願

東京都千代田区大手町2丁目6番3号

弁理士 井上 雅生 砂代 理

- し、発明の名称
- シリコンウェハの改修方法
- 2 ・特許請求の範囲
- (1) クリコンクェハを沈神するに関し、0.1 ~:20 乗量%の矛化水器を含みら、かつ触化剤として. 9.5~25個最外の函数を合有する水解放を洗涤效。 とすることを特徴とするシリコンウェへの依飾方
- (2) シリコンウェハを洗浄するに探し、4.65~10 重量%の亦化水岩を合布し、かつ酸化剤として 9.05~18通量分の過時化水梁を含有する水解液を 洗浄液とすることを特徴とするシリコンウェハの
- (3) シリコンウェハを批称するに終し、0.05~10 重量%の易化水素を含有し、かつ酸化器として酸 化性ガスの気泡を認入せしめた水溶液を洗浄設と することも特徴とするシリコンウェハの読券方
- 3.発明の詳細な説明

産業上の利用分野

本苑明は、シリコンウェハの変韻を高清神な状 無にするための沈浄方法に関するものである。 従来の役権

近年,ゲバイスの高泉積化に停って、その基数 となるシリコンウェハの表面をより一層振声化す ることが強く望まれている。

シリコンウェヘの表面に、シリコン粒子や幽等 の世校子行英伽翼(パーティクルとも言われる) が存在すると、デバイス配線の路線やショートの 原因となり、進移金属等の金属系角換物質がある と、酸化諸超接腊欠難の発生やライフタイムの低 下といった問題が生じる。このため、これら詩祭 物質を除去するための抗疫が行われるが、洗浄の 路に母婆されることも避けなければならない。

茯穀のシリコンウェハの洗浄方法としては、 ②希弗酸水溶液で洗浄する方法。 ②塩酸はたは硫 鮭と過酸化水器との混合水溶液で洗炉する方法。 および国アンモニアと海郎化水素の混合水舟様で 洗浄する方法が行われている。これら名説浄法で

特問平3-208900 (2)

使用される改修療には、数数子持定物機や金属系 汚染物質を振力延成した認純度の薬品額や水が使 用されている。

従来の税券方法のうち、①はシリコンウェへ表面に通路10入程度の厚さて存在する自然酸化键を治解する能力を有し、酸化酸中の金属系污染物質の低級は無しいという問題がある。

②は塩酸または硝酸が持つ金属系汚染物質に対 する高度解能力を利用したものであるが、酸化酸 を溶解する能力がない。このため、酸化酸上の金 展系丹類物質を缺去する効果は高いが、酸化酸中 性酸化酸とシリコンの界面に存在する金属系汚染 物質を除去する効果は低い。

急はシリコン目身を潜解する傷きがあるため、 その上に存在する金属系行契物質を除出する効果 は高いが、塩基性の洗浄液中で生成するほ化膜は 洗浄液中の金属系药築物質等を取り込みあいとい う性質があり、シリコンウェハが再行集される可 能性が高い。しかし、この方法は微粒子の鈴去薄

したがって、スライトニッチ住でもシリコンウェ ハの高調剤化には世界があると言わざるを元な

茂明 が解決しようとする疑問

本発明は、シリコンウェベを旋停するに取して、Pe等の会場系汚染物質および微粒子汚染物質を描めて低減し、酸化誘起旋潜欠節の発生やライ

災が高いため、ウェバナーカーやデバイステーカーで広く利用されている。

また、上記試象法の問題点を解消する方法として: 60恵登名の組織と 6.1単量%以下の赤化水来の混合水溶液中にクリコンケェハを製造して物かするステイトエッチ法と呼ばれる方法が提案されている。 (Ritus Takizova 5. "Estended Abstracts of Solid State Bartees and Materiols"、1988 中、P.475)。

しかし、幸運体用グレードと呼ばれる最高純度の前肢でも、ppb オーダーまたはサブppb オーダーの金銭系的気物質など文は健、Ca. Ca. Fe. K. 32. 21年が含まれているので、84重量がもの高濃度の角膜を含む気が減中の金銭系汚染物質の速度は高く、また石英ガラス製の気が標を使用すると石英ガラス中の金属不純物が辞出して、その値度はますまず為まる。

をして、高端退的群の強い酸化力でシリコンウェへの要面に酸化酸が形成され、洗浄液中の金額系形染物質が酸化膜中に取り込まれ易くなる。

フタイムの低下といった品質機能がなく、かつデバイスにした場合の電気特性の男化もない高額特質のシリコンウェハを得ることを目的とする。 課題を解決するための手段および作用

水苑明の勇旨はつぎのとおりである。

- (1) シリコンウェハを売掉するに終し、 6.1~20 重星%の売化水果を合対し、かつ酸化類として 6.5~25成量%の組骸を合有する水滑線を洗棒確 とすることを特殊とするシリコンウェへの洗浄力 注。
- (2) シリコンウェハを沈わするに関し、6.65~10 重量%の亦化水素を含有し、かつ酸化剤として 0.65~10運量%の過酸化水素を含有する水容量を 洗浄液とすることを特別とするシリコンウェハの 狄丹方法。
- (3) シリコンウェハを洗掉するに限し、0.05~10 重量%の単化水果を含有し、かつ酸化物として酸 化性ガスの気泊を収入せしめた水溶液を洗浄液と することを特徴とするシリコンウェハの洗浄方 法。

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本是明法は、シリコンウェハを挽称するに際期し、抗市被中の不納物を振力低減するために選別の認証量を数小限に抑え、しかも気物能力に優視れた政を使用する。すなわち、太急男法は、必要最小限の非常なに飲食性の水溶液に飲食を変し、なりコンに対するニッチング能を制たせることにより、Ft等の金属系列及物質を対するととにより、Ft等の金属系列及物質を対象のに飲まするものであり、酸化剤として、請求項(2)においては必要最小限の過酸化水素を使用し、は水項(3)においては必要最小限の過酸化水素を使用する。

本発明法において、税券級中の赤化水業、勤機 および過酸化水素の濃度は、それぞれFF、BRO3、 およびB、Ogとしての感見外である。海水頂(3)に おいては、酸化性ガスとして酸素および亜酸化会 業 (一般化二窒実) 等も含むガスを使用すること ができる。また、海線としては超純水を使用する。

調でかつ過酸化木素が4.05%星光火機だと、金属系で築物質の除虫効果が不充分である。男化水类の確保を増して10年最光を越えると、シリコンウェハの液面に散粒子特強物質が増加する傾向が認められる。また過酸化水素の濃度を増して10重量光を越えると、シリコン実面のエッチング最が過大になってウェハ表型が買れて参った状態になる。そして、男化水来が10重量光以下では、実例から殺入する不能物の過度は実質上問題ない。

したがって、弗化水麦の濃酸を0.65~10重量%、 過酸化水果の濃度を0.05~10重量%とした。 年 お、沈仲温度については、80℃を越えると沈仲む らが生じて絶遇理後のシリコンウェハ表面にピッ ト伏欠能を減起するおそれがあるので、80℃以下 とするのが望ましい。

請求項(3) において、弗化水舎が0.05氪量% 奈 協でかつ酸化性ガスの気間を混入させない場合は 金属不汚染物質の鉄土効果が不充分である。 邦化 木海の濃度を増して10乗量%を越えると、シリコ 請求块(1) において、発化水変が 6.1 医異名水 補でかつ前数が 6.5 近星形未被だと、金属系汚染 物質の快去効果が不必分である。発化水素の換度 を増して20里星形を越えると、シリコンウェハの 表のに数粒子汚染物質が増加する傾向が認められ る。また硝酸の複度を増して25度量形を超える と、シリコン表面のエッチング量が過大になって ウェハ表面が変れて乗った状態になる。そして、 矛化水素が20重量光以下でかつ前値が25重量形以 下では、裏別から超入する不動物の最後は変質上 問題ない。

したがって、外化水黄の接度を 0.1~26敗最%、 併成の譲废を 0.5~25虫最劣とした。なお、洗棒 温度については、必要以上に高温にすると邪化水 素および水の蒸気や消費の蒸発分解が促進されて 抗体液の組成が水発明の範囲から外れるおそれが あり、さらに昇温に時間がかかり作業性を等しく 治なうようになるので、30℃以下とするのが望ま しい。

請求項(2)において、弗化水素が8.05重量%来

ンウェハの裏面に教拉子病集物質が増加するとともにエッチング量が過去になってウェハ表面が荒れる。として、別化水素が10番量が以下では遅期から編入する不純物の譲渡は実質上問題なく、また酸化性ガスは不純物譲渡の塩めて低い高純度のものが比較的容易に得られるので問題ない。

したがって、男化水害の過度を9.03~10種最为 とし、酸化剤として酸化性ガスの気液を弱入せし めることとした。本お、技体温度については、 38℃を越えると性神む方が坐じて無処理後のシリ コンウェハ表面にピット状欠陥を誘起するおそれ があるので、96℃以下とするのが望ましい。

洗浄 故に 酸化性ガスの気制を高入せしめるには、洗浄 港内にガス導入管を入れてパブリングさせるか、あるいは洗浄港の底部にガス吸出孔を設けてパブリングさせる 守の公知の手段を疑用することができる。

本条明注によれば、シリコンと野選イオンとの 関に生じるシリコンのアノード溶解反応と、酸化 類の起こすカソード反応とが電気化学的にカップ

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ルして決められる資金電位がアノード側になるので、シリコンウェバ表面の金属系乃染物質が除去。 されやすい。

太桑明廷の範囲の参男イオンを含む雅教性の木 宿蔵中ではシリコン酸化物からなる不懈整収護が 化学的または電気化学的に溶解し、シリコンウェ ハ表面が視の状態になるため、酸化解が必要量整 加されて腐食電位がアノード側になるとウェハ表 面の金属系質染物質が容易に除去される。

なお、木鬼明法において、挽物語の成分として と記以外のもの例えば赤化アンモニウム等の場際 を使命確に派加したとしても秩序能力が損なわれ ることがない。

さらに、本発明法において、使来公知の秩序法 と組み合わせて行ってもよい。例えばアンモニア と過離北水素の退合水溶液で洗浄し、さらに効準 酸水溶液で洗浄した後、本発明法により洗布する とより効果的である。

黑施例

[1] 請求項()) の異範例

水性であるかも巨級により科定し、疎水性である ものも〇印、やや疎水性であるものを△印、根本 性であるものを×印で表示した。疎水性であれば シリコンウェハの表面にはシリコンの触化物すな わち能化設が存在しないことを示す。

さらに、光学類数額によりウェハ表面のビット 状欠略の有無を観察して表示した。 ビット状欠陥 なしは、エッチング量が過距で極めて平滑な鉄関 状態の表面を存していることを示している。

第1表において、比較例のMo.1がよびMo.15 は 免化水素が少ないため毎にFeむよびGeの残容量が 多く、同じくMo.8がよびMo.14 は多化水素が多す ざるためピット状欠陥が生じるとともに観粒子形 変物質が致存した。また、比較例のMo.19 および Mo.26 は発酸が多すざるためピット状欠陥が生じ た。

提来例の80.21 スライトエッチ技はBBG: 89重 量等、BF:0.1重量形の水溶液で装体したものであ るがFeの除去効果が延い。B6.22 アンモニア過酸 化水果法は BB:4.1重量%、B-Q:4.4食量%の水 的 270×10¹⁰ atoms/cm² のCr、的 240×10¹⁰ atoms/cm² のCr、約 240×10¹⁰ atoms/cm² のPsおとび約 313×10¹⁰ atoms/cm² のFiにより表面が持たされたシリコンウェハを、第1末に示す各種洗浄症に被使して洗浄した結果を阿敦に示す。洗浄後のシリコンウェハは、直ちに危絶水中で5分間以上の夜水水洗を2回行か、スピンドライヤーにより乾減した後、表面の汚染金属の分析に共した。

分析は、視形的政府戦によりシリコンフェハの 変層 1 p mを化学エッチングして容解し、被溶解 級中の会話元素製度をフレーAレス原子吸光光度 分析はにより定量した。なお、裏中のIDは分析定 是下吸以下であることを示し、Crit 0.1×10⁸⁰ atoms/cm² 未満、CuおよびFeは 0.2×10⁸⁰ atoms/cm² 未満、Niは 2.0×10⁸⁰ atoms/cm² 未満である。

ウェハ表面の数粒子は、ウェハ表面微粒子計算 製製により 測定し、18個/ウェハ以下を〇印、 10個/ウェハ級を×印で表示した。

また、洗涤袋のウェハ表面が疎水池であるか無

府被で秩序したものであるが、名種沈知法の中で最も全属系門致物質の飲去効果が低く、特にFeの除虫効果が低い。No.25 塩酸過酸化水素法は EQ:13.14 量量%の水溶液で表降したものであり、全属系門架物質除虫のために現在数も多用されている梵符法であるが、水発明例に比べて特にFeの除去効果が低い。

太是明例(!) は、何れもショコンウェハ表面の 報故于汚染物質および全属系汚染物質が得めて低 誠され、免渉後の表面にピット状欠勝ちない。ま た発浄後の実面には敵化腰が存在せず、確本性の 表面状態になっている。これは、免渉中に酸化駅 が形成されてその中に裁浄成中の金属系污染物質 が取り込まれるという発浄による浮汚飲が、本発 明例(!) では生じていないことを意味する。

121 請求項(2) および請求項(3) の実施例 約18×10 th atams/om² のCr. 約 118×19 th atams/cm² のCu. 約 118×10 th atams/cm² のFeお よび約21×19 th atams/cm² の前により表面が行換 されたシリコンウェハを、第2次に示す各種秩序

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液に投資して独物した結果を阿袞に流す。 沈沙後のシリコンウェハは突然例[1] と同様に水洗乾燥し、金属茶汚染物質の分析、飲料予汚染物質の群足およびピット状火路の観点を行った。その結果を第2表に示す。

本発明の請求項(2) の実施例である本発明例 (2) および請求項(3) の実施例である太免明例 (3) は、何れも金属系持築物質および敵粒子药築 物質が挟めて軽減され、かつピット状欠給もな

比較例のNc.8は発化水業および過強化水業が少ないため、また比較例のNo.8は悪化水業が少ないためCr. Ca. Feの残存量が多い。比較例のNo.15 は酸化剤の量が少ないためCr. Ca. Feの残存量が多い。また、比較例のNo.18、No.17、No.19 のように先化水業や過酸化水率の量が多すぎると、ピット状欠節が現れたり散粒子汚染物質が増加したりする。

第 1 表

													•
×q	nnos.	ЦЕ	第 三 庆 分	栈 炸 阵·甜	題 區	抜神 《X	表の安 IB ^{IO} etc	四芳朵 Das/ca	至金属	改净级	2+1	教验子	医分
L	(\$)	(\$)	(HE ₄ F)	(#)	(%)	Cr	Ca	Fe	iK	の安瓿	状灰脑	污染	
91	6.59	9.05	# L	200	25.	81	2.3	23	MD.	×	# L	. Q	比較例
92	0.10	0.10	な・し	300	25	2.4	26	15	16D	4	# L	0	比較例
93	8.50	5.00	E 1	. 3ge .	25	KD	NĐ	ĦŨ	348	0	₽ し	0	太趋劳例主
54	0.50	10.0	☆ し	364	25	ND.	DM	KЭ	NB	0	☆ し	•	本発明例1
05	8.50	20.3	# L	306	25	ŒĐ.	MD.	113	N9	0	なし	٥	水差明例1
. 68	0.50	39.8	なし	300	25	MD	6D	KB	מא	0	B 13	×	比較例
07	9.58	5.09	0.1%	201	25	KĐ	MB .	ND.	10	0	# L	0	木兔男例 1
08	0.50	5.00	# L	300	- 40	¥9	¥0	KD	30	•	# L	0	木克男狗 1
09	0.50	5.09	# L	300	- 60	XD.	XD.	ND.	Ma	0	# L	O	木角明例 1
10	8.50	5.BQ	なし	300	80	CIK.	NĐ	PO	NO	0	# L	0	木类明例1
111	.15.6	8.10	なし	390	25	סוג	HD.	WB .	.ND	0	2 L	o i	本免明例1
12	15.0	9.16	0.13	300	25 -	KB	aD.	- NO	ЖÜ	0	# L	O ·	本兒明伊1
13	15.0	20.0	# L	304	25	NB	ND	A9	ND	0	ホレ	0	本発明例 1
14	15.0	30.0	4 L	100	25	YB	MB	ND.	NS	0	あり	×	比較例
15	25.6	9.05	☆ レ	300	25	ND	1.8	2,3	ND	×	なし	0	比較例
16	25.0	Q. 10	* 1	360	25	ND	NĐ	KD.	KĐ	0	な レ	. •	木焰明佛 1
17	25.0	5-60	# L	398	25	#0	MB .	MB	'ND	٥.	な し	0	木発明例 1
18	25.0	19.0	* L	300	25	ind)	MB	NB	.ND	∵0	なし	o ·	本発明例i
19	30.0	5.60	な し	300	25 .	RB	10	NB	. ND	0	b 9	0	比較例
20	39.0	20.0	なし	306	25 ·	119	110	HD	MD	0	A 9	0	比較的
21	スダイト	エッチは	•	309	76	ND .	2.8	34	MG	×	# L	0	皮染例
-22	アンモニ	7退就位	(水景法	869	88	2.7	2.4	77	HD	×	* L	0	使来例
28.	塔酰进图	化水果盐	•	600	80	ND	, IO	15	NO	· ×	# i	0	使果例
		•		l	(1		1	

持期平 3-208900 (6)

群 2 妻

#o	11F	H ₂ O ₂	館化性ガス の組成	第三成分	选 涉 閱	被置		B to at a			۲.	» F	教程子	区分
20	(2)	(\$)	~ (i) ~		与 関 (sec)	(°C)	Ст	Fe	- 34	Ca	株2	大阪	秀笑	
61	6.85	1.00	æι	#L	800	25	#D	·ND	₩D.	MĐ	4	L	0	本苑明例(2)
02	6.51	0.10	a L	なし	600	25	¥D	ND	MD	NO	4	· L	٥	本発明例(2)
63	0.10	2.01	at L	なし	600	25	. ND	III)	₩D.	MD.	4	ا.	0	本発男妇(2)
96	4.50	0.12	26	なし	690	25	JID	GK	60	310	#	L.	0	本竞明册(2)
65	1.05	0.11	· # U.	なし	360	25	RD	MD	W8	МО	#	Ł,	Ö	未発明到(2)
08	1.00	1.67	αι	MB.F 0.101	240	25	ND	MD .	HD	MD	*	L	•	本発男併(2)
07	6.99	5.08	αL	なし・	120	25	MB	MD	NO	ND	#	L	.0	本発明例(2)
98	0.63	8.04	. EL	なし	696	25	1.2	6.8	жĐ	5.9	#	ւ	0	比較例
-69	9.01	1.00	*	αL	600	25	13.2	23.4	MD	12.4	**	L	C	比較例 "
10	9.10	0.29	2L	津 し	600	49	30	ND	MD	110	*	ı	0	本処明例(2)
11	9.65	本し	pare O2	ΦL	600	25	MD	NB .	ND	MB	A	L	0	本発明例(3)
12	0.15	なし	80202-202AT	al	606	25	KD	MB	100	MD	=	L	.0	太竞明例(3)
13	2.01	4x L	26302+801N2	NEAF 0.19%	380	20	KD	NB)TD	ND .	な	ı	O	太弱明例(3)
14	8.02	æ . ₺	рите Од	*L	\$80.	. 25	5.8	45.8	WB	7.9	47	L	. 0	比較例
15	0.15	0.01	æί	***	600	25	6.8	12.4	, ND	6.4	椞.	し	0	比較例
18	11.0	2.05	· #L	ኢ ኒ	600	25	NO.	MĐ	N9	MD	*	し	×	比較例
17	5.25	10.2	#L	*L	609	. 25	MB	ND	#9	MD .	·35	ñ	0	昆鲛鳄
18	11.2	# L	bate 05	. & L	669	. 52	ND	ND .	-169	朔	ħ	ij.	×	比较例
19	1.60 -	4 L	202N2G+882N2	なし	B 0 8	30	KĐ	MD	#B	MD.	*	し	0	太是明例(3)

発明の対象

本発明法によりシリコンウェハを洗浄すると、 全保存残偽質むよび数粒子汚染物質がともに活 めて低減された高済浄度のシリコンウェハが得ら れ、酸化請思及陽欠低の発生やライフタイムの係 下といったシリコンウェハの品質係下が回避され るとともに、ICや LSIなどの高級硫化したデバイ メに使用した場合の電気物性劣化のおそれも回避 される。

代型人会独士 恭 ト 雅 生